

Message Text

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44

ACTION EB-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 INR-05

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8529

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BERN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 03828

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN, CI

SUBJECT: CHILE DEBT RESCHEDULING

REF: STATE 51193

1. ECON/COMM MINISTER SPOKE TO FONMIN ASSISTANT
SECRETARY HERMES MORNING MARCH 7, REITERATING STRONG
US INTEREST IN HAVING FRG PARTICIPATE IN PARIS CLUB
MEETING AND POINTING OUT THAT FRG DECISION WILL
CARRY WEIGHT WITH OTHER CREDITORS. ECON/COMM MIN
EXPRESSED HOPE THAT FRG WOULD NOT WAIT TO SEE HOW
OTHER CREDITORS LINED UP, AND SUGGESTED THAT FRG
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OBSERVER AT THE HAGUE MEETING MARCH 7 TRY TO

PERSUADE OTHER PARTICIPANTS TO DELAY THE DECISION OF THEIR GOVERNMENTS UNTIL FRG, FRANCE AND OTHER MAJOR CREDITORS DECIDE.

2. HERMES RESPONDED THAT FRG FORNOFF AND ECON MINISTRY, BOTH HEADED BY FDP (LIBERAL PARTY) MINISTERS, ARE BY NO MEANS GOING TO BE GUIDED BY WHAT A GROUP OF SOCIALISTS IN THE HAGUE DECIDE. HERMES HAS SENT RECOMMENDATION TO FORNMIN GENSCHER THAT FRG PARTICIPATE IN PARIS CLUB MEETING. HERMES OFFERED TO TAKE UP WITH MINISTER OF STATE WISCHNEWSKI OUR SUGGESTION THAT FRG OBSERVER AT MARCH 7 MEETING SEEK TO DELAY DECISION BY OTHERS.

3. GEBERTH IN ECONMIN SUBSEQUENTLY INFORMED EMBOFF THAT ECON STATE SECY ROHWEDDER IS SENDING ECONMIN DEPUTY ASST SECY MORAWITZ AS FRG OBSERVER TO MARCH 7 MEETING. MORAWITZ, WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR COORDINATION OF EC POLICY AND WHO HAS NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR EITHER CHILE OR DEBT QUESTIONS, IS GOING IN PERSONAL CAPACITY. MORAWITZ HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN DISCUSSIONS, BUT ONLY TO OBSERVE. GEBERTH ARGUED THAT IT WOULD BE A MISTAKE TO CHANGE THESE INSTRUCTIONS. IF MORAWITZ EVEN ARGUED ONLY FOR A DELAY IN DECISION, HE WOULD HAVE TO CITE JUSTIFICATION FOR GOING AHEAD WITH PARIS CLUB MEETING, AND SUCH ARGUMENTS WOULD SOON BE REPORTED IN ALL THE PRESS. MOREOVER, THESE ARGUMENTS WOULD ACCOMPLISH LITTLE. IT HAS BEEN CLEAR TO FRG FROM BEGINNING THAT DUTCH WILL NOT PARTICIPATE. SWISS HAVE ALREADY DECIDED TO ATTEND PARIS MEETING AND WILL NOT BE REPRESENTED AT THE HAGUE. POSITION TAKEN BY SCANDINAVIANS WILL NOT BE DETERMINING.

4. GEBERTH POINTED OUT THAT CONSIDERABLE CARE MUST BE TAKEN WITHIN FRG ABOUT HANDLING CHILE QUESTION BECAUSE OF POSITION OF SPD LEFT WING. FRG WOULD HAVE DECIDED EARLIER BUT FOR THE MARCH 7 MEETING. IN VIEW THIS MEETING, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN IMPOLITE TO GO AHEAD BEFORE HAVING HEARD ARGUMENTS OF SOCIALIST

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COLLEAGUES. GEBERTH CONFIRMED THAT DECISION WILL BE TAKEN MARCH 10.

5. COMMENT: EVEN THOUGH HIS INSTRUCTIONS TO REMAIN SILENT MAY NOT BE CHANGED, WE ARE ENCOURAGED BY DECISION TO SEND A LOWER MIDDLE LEVEL TECHNICAL OFFICIAL WHO IS NON-DOCTRINAIRE AND WHO WILL CLEARLY FOLLOW GUIDELINES HE HAS BEEN GIVEN. THIS REFLECTS

EFFORT BY FRG OFFICIALS TO KEEP CHILE RESCHEDULING
ISSUE OUT OF POLITICAL ARENA.
HILLENBRAND

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